Oracle Application Express 5.0
Page Designer

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October 2013
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Oracle Application Express 5.0

Improved Developer Productivity
Statement of Direction

APEX OTN Site
(http://otn.oracle.com/apex)
Page Definition History

Page Definition: **Component View**
- HTML DB 1.5
- Drag and Drop Layout Introduced
  - Form items only

Page Definition: **Tree View**
- APEX 3.0

Page Definition: **Page Designer**
- APEX 4.0
  - New IDE including drag and drop layout
  - Grid Layout Themes
  - Drag and Drop Layout Removed

APEX 4.2

APEX 5.0
Page Designer {Planned for APEX 5.0}

All images are draft only. Aspects of the look and feel will change before production release.
Page Designer: Overall Design

• Define and maintain page elements directly within the IDE without needing to navigate to other pages.
• Quickly create new elements using drag and drop or menu shortcuts.
• Highly configurable user interface allowing the developer to customize and refine their view of the page, specific to their current focus, including slidable panels, hide / show groupings, zoom, and so forth.
• Perform updates to any number of elements on the page.
• Utilize “Undo” and “Redo” to revert the changes made.
• Simply press the “Apply Changes” button to commit all pending changes.
Page Designer: Left Panel

- Tree structures similar to those in the existing Tree View.
- Rendering, Processing and Shared Components all grouped in the left panel instead of horizontally across the page.
- Dynamic Actions introduced as a new grouping.
- Allows you to create, move and duplicate elements using drag and drop techniques or the improved context sensitive menus.
- All element types can be deleted directly from the tree.
- Clicking on one or more elements will highlight those elements in the Grid Layout and populate common element details in the Property Editor.
Grid Layout allows you to create, move, copy and delete regions, items and buttons using drag and drop techniques.

Clicking on one or more elements will highlight those elements within Rendering and populate common element details in the Property Editor.

Text Editor allows you to edit code, such as Region Source, with syntax highlighting and auto-completion.
Page Designer: Centre Panel - Bottom

- Gallery shows regions, items and buttons that can be dragged into the Grid Layout above to create a new element.
- Messages display errors and warnings associated with changes you have made to the page.
- Help displays context sensitive help based on the current focus.
- Search allows you to perform a page search.
Page Designer: Right Panel

- Property Editor displays the details for the currently selected element(s) and vastly improves productivity by making the definition of elements easier and more intuitive.
- Improved usability for defining properties, including instant input feedback, cascading context sensitive selections, easier definition of common property types, and better help text.
- Allows bulk editing of common properties when multiple elements are selected.
  - If a property has the same value for all elements the value is displayed.
  - If the values differ the display will be blacked out and not show a value.